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PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Typed or Printed Name	Alan W. Cannon		
Signature		Date	6/27/06

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT Address to: Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450		
	Attorney Docket Confirmation No.	9261.16661-PCT-US-DIV 8496
	First Named Inventor	Aboul-Hosn
	Application Number	10/677,468
	Filing Date	02/24/06
	Group Art Unit	3743
	Examiner Name	Nguyen, Camtu Tran
	Title	Method and Apparatus for Preventing Air Embolisms

Sir:

This is in response to the Restriction Requirement dated February 24, 2006 for which a one-month period for response was given making this response due on or before March 24, 2006. A request for a four month extension of time is being filed concurrently with this response to extend the response date to July 24, 2006.

THE RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

In the Official Action dated February 24, 2006, the Examiner required an election of species among the four following species that the Examiner identified:

"Species 1" – claims 2-10; and

"Species 2" – claims 11-19.

Further, the Examiner has indicated that no claim is generic to both of the listed species.

The Examiner required election of one of the above-listed species to be responsive to the Office Action.

RESPONSE

In response to the restriction requirement, Applicants elect Species 1, claims 2-10, with traverse. Applicants respectfully submit that it would not be an undue burden upon the Office to examine all of the claims in the instant application together in this case, since all are directed to methods of providing cardiac support and would presumably require the same or very similar searches.